



Re: Assessment of Cook Inlet Tribes ' Subsistence Consumption

Katherine Brown to: Twitchell, Miriah D (DEC)

01/14/2013 05:27 PM

Hi Miriah!

Sorry about the delay. Below are the links, a recent management summary, and the original project abstract. We should be able to share a copy of the report when it's final. Feel free to call with any questions.

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<http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/tribal.NSF>

Links

ATSDR's Cook Inlet Health Consultation
<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hac/pha/CookInlet07-29-2009/Revised-EvaluationofSeafoodandPlantDataCollectedfromCookInlet7-29-09.pdf>

EPA's Cook Inlet Survey
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/oea.nsf/risk+assessment/cook+inlet+seafood+study>

Management Summary

Assessment of Cook Inlet Tribes' Subsistence Consumption

Seldovia Village Tribe in southcentral Alaska is completing an assessment of Cook Inlet Tribes' subsistence consumption. Funded through an FY12 IGAP Special Project, this assessment includes a survey of tribal subsistence consumption rates, patterns, and preparation of anadromous and resident fish species and other subsistence resources in 4 villages around Cook Inlet (Seldovia, Port Graham, Nanwalek, and Tyonek). The study was modeled after the CRITFC survey, and the tribes hope to follow-up with a 2nd phase project to assess contaminant levels in FY 14.

Seldovia submitted a Draft Cook Inlet Subsistence Assessment Report and data December 30. According to the draft report, the overall average rate of fish consumption by adults throughout the year was 94.8 grams/day. The overall average rate reported by the CRITFC study was 58.7 grams/day. The highest average rates of fish consumption in the Cook Inlet study were by Nanwalek females- 164 grams/day and Port Graham males- 159 grams/day. Currently, ADEC uses a fish consumption rate of 6.5 grams/day to calculate human health criteria. TTAU will convene a review panel including staff from ETPA, OEA, and OW January 16, and plans to provide comments to the tribe by January 31.

Project Abstract

Special Project Title:
Assessment of Cook Inlet Tribes' Subsistence Consumption

Abstract:
Seldovia Village Tribe (SVT) seeks to contribute to protecting the health of Alaska Natives within the Cook Inlet area through the collection and dissemination of accurate information concerning tribal

members' fish consumption rates, habits, preparation and cooking methods. We propose to conduct a baseline assessment of fish consumption, and to build capacity for conducting risk assessments of contaminant exposure through these pathways. This study would occur in two phases. The first phase (what SVT is requesting funding for in this proposal), would be a thorough baseline assessment of fish consumption through surveying tribal members from the villages of Seldovia, Nanwalek, Port Graham, and Tyonek. The second phase (which SVT would seek funding for later), would involve building capacity for risk assessment through testing of contaminant levels in fish, used traditionally as subsistence resources by tribal members, caught within the waters of Cook Inlet. In this proposed study, SVT would: collaborate with tribal environmental/EPA staff from the villages of Nanwalek, Port Graham, and Tyonek to create a scientific fish consumption assessment, survey tribal members; obtain quantitative baseline data on fish consumption by tribal members; evaluate and analyze the data; and meet with other tribal partners to ensure project progress, good communication and collaboration, and transparency/dissemination of information.

Benefit to Tribes and Others:

This project could potentially benefit all tribes in Alaska (229), certainly all tribes in Cook Inlet (10), via conducting baseline assessments of fish consumption in Seldovia, Nanwalek, Port Graham, and Tyonek (4)

Specific Environmental Outcomes and Benefit Resulting from this Work :

- Increase data and knowledge of tribal fish consumption
- Increase staff skills in technical surveys and data collection
- Increase knowledge of contaminants in subsistence foods, and risks associated with consumption
- Increase health of tribal and community members

"Twitchell, Miriah D (DEC)"

Hey Katherine, I just got an update that...

01/10/2013 10:58:28 AM

From: "Twitchell, Miriah D (DEC)" <miriah.twitchell@alaska.gov>
To: Katherine Brown/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/10/2013 10:58 AM
Subject: Cook Inlet GP Update

Hey Katherine,

I just got an update that DEC intends to time a public comment period with EPA's federal version sometime in early March. The permit should therefore be available for preliminary draft review (a short review period) sometime in February.

Thanks again for your assistance, and I look forward to seeing the reports.

Miriah D. Twitchell

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